



NT-US035184

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Nandkumar RANGNEKAR et al. : Patent Art Unit: 3612
Serial No.: 10/740,925 : Examiner: Patricia Lynn Engle
Filed: December 22, 2003 : Allowed: January 28, 2005
For: VEHICLE DOOR HINGE ASSEMBLY :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH PETITION FOR ACCEPTANCE THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

Moreover, Applicants hereby petition that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered into the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Enclosed is a check for \$180.00 to cover the petition fee of 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

I hereby certify that each item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was first cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of

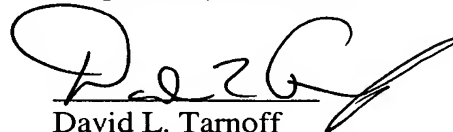
this information disclosure statement. A copy of European Search Report of the corresponding European Application No. 04258025.8 is attached hereto.

* * *

German Patent No. 1078901 appears to disclose a goose neck hinge for a vehicle that is mounted to a body portion of the vehicle.. The European Search Report indicated that the columns 1-5, claims 1-8 and Figures 1-5 were relevant.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 4-353183 appears to disclose a goose neck hinge for a vehicle that is mounted to a body portion of the vehicle. The European Search Report indicated that the abstract and Figures 1-13 were relevant. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand this reference.

Respectfully submitted,



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Subject

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/740,925

Filing Date

December 22, 2003

First Named Inventor

Nandkumar RANGNEKAR

Group Art Unit

3612

Examiner Name

Patricia Lynn Engle

Attorney Docket Number

NT-US035184

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

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